



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CEDAR TRAIL REOPENS AT FIRE-DAMAGED WILLIAM HEISE PARK: *Nature Hike Scheduled To Celebrate Trail Reopening*

The fire-damaged Cedar trail at William Heise County Park in Julian has been rehabilitated and reopened today, Friday, October 15, 2004.

The 1-mile trail loops around the south side of Cedar Creek pond and provides hikers with a unique opportunity to see a knoll of burnt oak trees and the current vegetation regrowth as nature restores itself after the wildfires. This is an easy to moderate hike that meanders through a dense, cool cedar and oak forest and opens up to a panoramic view of the Julian backcountry burned areas.

According to the County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation Director, Renée Bahl, this is another milestone on the road to recovery. "It is exciting to celebrate the restoration and reopening of our fire damaged trails as they provide unique opportunities for San Diego residents and visitors to come and see how nature restores itself after a wildfire. It's also healthy recreation." The reopening of the Cedar trail means more than 44 miles of fire-damaged County Park trails have been rehabilitated.

To celebrate the trail reopening, the Canyoneers hiking group will lead a free hike on Sunday, October 17, 2004 at 10 a.m. Interested hikers should meet at Picnic Area 1 in William Heise County Park. For more information about the event or to make an online camping reservation at William Heise County Park, please visit www.sdparks.org.

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